

EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION 20 MILITARY SUPPORT TO CIVIL AUTHORITIES

PRIMARY AGENCY: Washington State Military Department
National Guard

SUPPORT AGENCIES: Washington State Military Department
Emergency Management Division
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Fifth United States Army
Readiness Group, Fort Lewis

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Purpose

The purpose of this Emergency Support Function (ESF) is to establish the circumstances and procedures for the Governor to order the Washington National Guard (WNG) or any part thereof into active state service, and to provide for the effective coordination and use of military assets during an emergency or disaster.

B. Scope

Specific actions to be taken following any incident will be determined by the level of effort required to support the event. This ESF covers the full range of actions.

II. POLICIES

- A. Military forces, either state or federal, remain under, and will follow, the military chain of command. WNG personnel and equipment will remain under the operational control of the designated Military Task Force Commander or WNG Emergency Operations Center (EOC).
- B. The Adjutant General will deploy resources of the WNG in a federally-funded status in response to an emergency involving imminent loss of life, to prevent great suffering and/or to mitigate great destruction of property, in accordance to federal regulations and statutes. As soon as the emergency situation is stabilized, the WNG will begin to withdraw support unless a determination is made to order the WNG into state active service, and the Governor so orders.

III. SITUATION

A. Emergency/Disaster Conditions and Hazards

See the Basic Plan and the Hazard Identification and Vulnerability Assessment.

B. Planning Assumptions

1. A serious incident will require the activation of the WNG.

2. The WNG will not have been already committed to a national emergency or mobilized for war.
3. WNG members will be able to gain release from their civilian employment.
4. Local jurisdictions or organizations will have maintained a close working relationship with WNG units located within their jurisdictions.
5. The local jurisdictions or organizations will have coordinated, as appropriate, their plans and procedures with the WNG units located within their jurisdiction.
6. All requests for military support during an emergency or disaster will be submitted to the state EOC from the local jurisdiction or organization.

IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. General

1. Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 38.08.040 provides that, upon the occurrence of certain events, the Governor has the power to order the organized militia of Washington or any part thereof into active service in order for the state to execute the laws and perform such services as the Governor shall deem proper. This power resides with the Governor or acting Governor alone, and may not be delegated to another person or agency. Therefore, it is important to have a clear manifestation of the exercise of power so that authority of the WNG to act is established, and funds may be expended in support of them. WNG assistance is designed to complement, not substitute for, civil participation in emergency operations.
2. Washington State Military Department, Emergency Management Division, (EMD), in consultation with The Adjutant General, may recommend activation of the WNG to the Governor under certain conditions. The circumstances and mechanisms whereby the Governor will order the WNG or any part thereof into active state service are as follows:
 - a. In anticipation of a justifiable need for WNG resources, The Adjutant General will recommend to the Governor activation of the WNG in active state service to facilitate planning and/or propositioning of WNG resources to reduce response time.
 - b. Upon receipt of a validated request for support from a local jurisdiction or appropriate agency or organization, which cannot be met with state or other resources in a reasonable time, the state EOC will task the WNG for execution of the mission. If the mission is consistent with WNG capabilities, the WNG will perform the mission as provided for by state law.
 - c. In either case, state EMD will consult with The Adjutant General and the Governor's staff to receive final authorization.

3. Whenever the potential need for WNG assistance is drawn to the attention of the Governor or Adjutant General, The Adjutant General may, in company with the Governor or other state officials, review the emergency or disaster scene by air or ground transportation for damage assessment to determine the extent of the need.
4. If the Governor believes the conditions for activating the WNG are being met, the Governor may order the WNG to state active service. The WNG will not be ordered to state active service, except by the Governor.

B. Organization

The Washington State Military Department is made up of two military components--the Air National Guard and the Army National Guard, and two civilian components, the state EMD, and the Support Services staff. The WNG is positioned in 27 cities throughout the state. Unit capabilities include engineering, communications, transportation, and aviation.

C. Procedures

The various elements of the Washington State Military Department will follow their internal Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) when in support of an emergency or disaster.

D. Mitigation Activities

1. Primary Agency

Washington State Military Department, National Guard

The primary activities of the WNG are generally limited to the preparation and response phases. Mitigation efforts for the WNG include ensuring armories, equipment storage, sites, training areas, and billeting areas will not be located in flood plains or other areas that will place them in peril of natural disasters.

2. Support Agency

Washington State Military Department, Emergency Management Division

- a. Provides a copy of the state's Hazard Identification and Vulnerability Assessment (HIVA) to the WNG as foundation and basis for mitigation activities.
- b. Provides information about hazards that may influence the location of Military Department facilities and troop deployments.

E. Preparedness Activities

1. Primary Agency

Washington State Military Department, National Guard

- a. Uses the HIVA and other sources to analyze threats, prepare plans for response to civil authorities. The response may take the form of trained experts to work with local jurisdictions, staff officers to brief emergency managers on WNG capabilities, or equipment loans to support preparatory training.
- b. Develops, in coordination with the state EMD, an inventory of state and federal military resources.
- c. Conducts periodic exercises to validate current contingency plans and staff capabilities. These exercises will include personnel from army guard units, air guard units, EMD, and state and local jurisdictions.
- d. Identifies and trains Liaison Officers (LNOs) for dispatch to various jurisdictions within Washington State. LNOs will be pre-designated for counties and cities that have historically relied on WNG assets during times of need.
- e. Maintains a separate WNG EOC at Camp Murray, to manage activities.

2. Support Agencies

a. Washington State Military Department, Emergency Management Division

- (1) Prepares the state's HIVA.
- (2) Coordinates with the WNG to ensure readiness.
- (3) Maintains an EOC and procedures.
- (4) Coordinates with the WNG to develop an inventory of available state and federal military resources.
- (5) Maintains liaison with FEMA.

b. Fifth United States Army/US Army Forces Command (FORSCOM)

Establishes joint measures for coordinating the employment of Army forces and resources within the western United States.

c. Readiness Group, Fort Lewis

Provides a pre-designated Defense Coordinating Officer (DCO) and staff for the Defense Coordinating Element (DCE) to coordinate the federal military response effort in the event of a federally declared disaster. The DCE will normally be collocated with the FEMA Disaster Field Office (DFO).

F. Response Activities

1. Primary Agency

Washington State Military Department, National Guard

- a. Upon activation of the state EOC, the WNG will dispatch a Liaison Officer (LNO) to the EOC. The LNO coordinates requests for state and federal resources. Requests for federal resources are referred to the DCO. Requests for state resources are relayed to the WNG EOC at Camp Murray. The WNG will provide a LNO to affected jurisdictions on a case-by-case basis.
- b. Provides support, as requested by the state EOC, to include but not be limited to:
 - (1) Air and land transportation.
 - (2) Armories, tentage, and available land.
 - (3) Security forces and traffic control.
 - (4) Light urban search and rescue operations.
 - (5) Supplemental communications.
 - (6) Air support for reconnaissance.
 - (7) Limited emergency medical assistance.
 - (8) Limited mass feeding.
 - (9) Damage assessment of state military facilities, and other state and local jurisdiction facilities.
 - (10) Participation in the conduct of Project Worksheets of other state and local jurisdiction facilities.
 - (11) Limited water purification.
 - (12) Limited power generation.
 - (13) Coordination with other military services.

- (14) Representation for discussion of emergency highway traffic regulations.
- (15) Conduct of wildland firefighting operations.

2. Support Agencies

a. Washington State Military Department, Emergency Management Division

- (1) Activates the state EOC, issue warnings, and activates the Emergency Alert System as necessary.
- (2) Prepares a recommendation for the Governor's Proclamation of Emergency and activation of the WNG, when appropriate.
- (3) Following authorization by the Governor, the initial ordering of the WNG to state active service will be made orally by The Adjutant General or his designated representative. When the WNG receives the order, it will be understood by the WNG that the Governor has ordered the WNG into state active service for the emergency or disaster.
- (4) As soon as is practicable thereafter, a written order signed by the Governor will be executed. The written order will be prepared by the state EMD staff and executed by the Governor's staff utilizing the format at Appendix 1. Copies of this document will be forwarded to the Governor's Office, Washington State Military Department, and the Office of Financial Management (OFM).

b. Federal Emergency Management Agency

- (1) Receives requests for federal military assistance from the state EOC, following a Presidential Disaster Declaration.
- (2) Coordinates requests for federal military assistance, through the DCO, with the Fifth United States Army.

c. Fifth United States Army

- (1) Exercises direction and control of U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) emergency military support operations.
- (2) Ensures effective utilization of resources made available by the U.S. Department of Army, U.S. Department of Air Force, U.S. Department of Navy, and other federal military agencies.

G. Recovery Activities

1. Primary Agency

Washington State Military Department, National Guard

Releases WNG personnel and equipment as soon as local authorities or state agencies have regained control of the emergency or disaster.

2. Support Agency

Washington State Military Department, Emergency Management Division

Coordinates with the WNG and FEMA for military support to critical response/recovery transition operations.

V. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Primary Agency

Washington State Military Department, National Guard

1. Provides support to civil authorities consistent with their designated mission and capabilities.
2. Controls and directs use of state military resources employed in state active service.
3. Establishes appropriate readiness levels for the WNG.

B. Support Agencies

1. Washington State Military Department, Emergency Management Division

- a. Trains and educates civil authorities in the appropriate use of military support and the procedures for requesting military assistance.
- b. Coordinates emergency plans for military support to civil authorities.
- c. Alerts the WNG for possible military support requests.

2. Federal Emergency Management Agency

- a. Provides support to the state of Washington by coordinating requests for federal military assistance.

- b. Coordinates requests for federal military assistance through the DCO following a Presidential Disaster Declaration.

3. Fifth United States Army

- a. Ensures effective use of DOD and other federal military assets under Fifth Army control.
- b. Establishes joint measures to coordinate and control the employment of active and reserve army forces and resources assisting state and federal emergency management.

4. Readiness Group, Fort Lewis

Provides support to the state of Washington as the DCO and representative of the Commander, Fifth United States Army. The DCO may assume control of all federal military units involved in a disaster.

VI. RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS

- A. Requests for WNG personnel and equipment must be consistent with unit capabilities. Using a company of highly trained truck drivers to fill sandbags, may deny a critical need from being filled elsewhere.
- B. Loan of equipment must not allow a WNG unit to diminish its capability to be self-supporting.
- C. Whenever possible, requests for personnel or equipment should include organic support. Diversion of WNG resources to federal military units is not consistent with the basic reason for requesting federal military assistance during emergencies.

VII. REFERENCES

- A. See Basic Plan.
- B. Chapter 38.08 RCW.

VIII. DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

None.